
Medicaid & Exchange Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
December 18, 2017

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Board Members Present: Kay Van Woert, Amy Vaughan (phone), Joan Lavoie, Gladys Konstantin, Dale Hackett, Lisa Maynes, Jessa Barnard, Michelle Fay, Julie Tessler, Georgia Maheras (phone), Nate Waite, Vaughn Collins (phone) and Mike Fisher.

Board Members Absent: Sharon Winn, Rebecca Heintz, Paul Bakeman, Laura Pelosi and Sharon Henault.

Other Interested Parties Present: Kelly Lange (BCBSVT), Kirsten Murphy (Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council), Brendan Hogan (Optum, phone) and Lucie Garand (Downs Rachlin Martin, phone)

Staff Present: Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA): Commissioner Cory Gustafson, Deputy Commissioner Michael Costa, Deputy Commissioner Lori Collins, Sean Sheehan, Dani Fuoco, Amy Simons and Molly Waldstein; Vermont Department of Health (VDH): Betty Morse

HANDOUTS

- Agenda
- Global Commitment Register (handout)
- November Meeting minutes (handout)
- Commissioner's Office Report (presentation)
- MMIS Report (presentation)
- VHC Update (presentation)

*all are posted to the VHC website

CONVENE

Mike Fisher and Julie Tessler chaired the meeting.

Welcome/Introductions/Approval of Minutes

Board members and meeting attendees introduced themselves around the room. A quorum was not initially present.

Department of Vermont Health Access Commissioner's Report—Cory Gustafson

Cory Gustafson, Commissioner of the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA), updated the group on recent developments within his department. The discussion included:

- Determining accurate Medicaid enrollment
- Eligibility determination challenges
- Drop in utilization rates
- Stabilization of Medicaid population
- Possible impacts of ACO program
- Medicaid payment rate measurement
- Vermont Health Connect Open Enrollment

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Vermont Health Connect Update—Sean Sheehan

Sean Sheehan, Health Access Eligibility and Enrollment Unit Deputy Director, updated the group on recent developments during Vermont Health Connect's Open Enrollment period. The discussion included:

- Renewals
 - 97.8% success rate of automated data transfer
 - Issuer and payment processor integration
 - COC processing rates still to come
- Plan changes
- Customer support
- Case escalation
- Open Enrollment outreach

The full presentation can be viewed online at:

http://info.healthconnect.vermont.gov/sites/hcexchange/files/Advisory_Board/Open%20Enrollment%202018%20Recap-12-18-17.pdf

Provider Workforce—Mary Kate Mohlman

Mary Kate Mohlman, Director of Health Care Reform, gave an update on provider workforce efforts throughout the state. The discussion included:

- Governor's Healthcare Workforce work group
 - Established 2013
 - Develops data around workforce gaps
 - June report on evolving workforce demands in Vermont
 - This group can be a funnel through which interested parties can develop strategies and identify priorities about provider workforce issues.
- Two work groups established under the Opioid Coordination Council
 - Professional development and affordability
 - Education and licensure
- Talent pipeline management
 - Construction
 - Manufacturing
 - Healthcare
- Alignment of workforce development organizations

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MMIS Update—Lori Collins

Lori Collins, DVHA Deputy Commissioner, gave an update on developments in the MMIS system. She was joined by Joe Liscinsky, Jim Peresta and Stacy Gibson-Grandfield who have each done significant work on the MMIS project. The discussion included:

- Approximately 8,000,000 claims come through the system annually
- Cross-departmental projects require alignment
- Pharmacy benefit manager certification
 - Successful certification meeting with CMS in November 2017
 - Certification anticipated within 60 days
 - Certification will allow for enhanced federal funding for maintenance and operations (75%)
- Care management
 - Certification anticipated within one year
 - Primarily used by VCCI
- Provider management model
 - Enrolls about 70,000 providers
 - Increased efficiencies in screening and enrollment of providers anticipated
- Electronic visit verification
 - Federal requirement to geo-map locations of in-home and community providers by 1/1/19
- Asset verification and presumptive eligibility
 - AVS will be implemented this month—a year in advance of federal deadline
 - Used NESCO as a vendor for procuring the solution
 - Solution is operational in other states, although has been customized for Vermont
- Modular approach vs. “Big Bang” conversion
- Collaboration with other states
- Presumptive eligibility

The full presentation can be viewed online at:

http://info.healthconnect.vermont.gov/sites/hcexchange/files/Advisory_Board/MMIS%20Roadmap%20Slide%20Including%20AVS%20and%20PE.pdf

Global Commitment Amendment—Ashley Berliner

Ashley Berliner, Director of Healthcare Policy and Planning, called to discuss an amendment that has been posted in the Global Commitment Register for public notice. It is a request to receive federal financial participation for institutions specializing in treatment of mental disease. This amendment seeks to remove the existing time limitations on current federal financial participation and extend that participation in perpetuity. The public is invited to comment on the proposal through January 14. After reviewing the comments submitted and adjusting the proposal as needed, DVHA expects to submit the amendment by the end of January.

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Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 PM.

Topics for Regular Update:

- Vermont Health Connect Quarterly Update
- Commissioner Updates (Current Topics Discussion)
- GC Waiver (as Necessary)
- Quarterly Advocate Report (Legal Aid)

Future Meeting Topics:

- Reimbursement Unit updates
- MEAB Staffing updates
- Exchange CSR discussion

Next Meeting

January 22, 2017

Time: 10:00AM – 12:00PM

Site: DVHA, State Office Complex, Waterbury, VT

Please visit the Advisory Board website for up-to-date information:

http://info.healthconnect.vermont.gov/advisory_board/meeting_materials